



**THOMAS L. GARTHWAITE, M.D.**  
Director and Chief Medical Officer

**FRED LEAF**  
Chief Operating Officer

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES  
313 N. Figueroa, Los Angeles, CA 90012  
(213) 240-8101

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**Gloria Molina**  
First District

**Yvonne Brathwaite Burke**  
Second District

**Zev Yaroslavsky**  
Third District

**Don Knabe**  
Fourth District

**Michael D. Antonovich**  
Fifth District

September 19, 2002

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Thomas L. Garthwaite, MD

SUBJECT: **LA MODEL**

This is in response to the Board's motion of June 26, 2002 instructing DHS to work with the Hospital Association of Southern California (HASC) and the National Health Foundation (NHF) to update the LA Model, a statistical model that forecasts health care supply and demand.

Since July 3, 2002, DHS staff has been working with HASC and NHF to outline and refine the approach to the LA Model update. In short, NHF will be responsible for managing the Model, DHS will provide various population-level data and technical assistance, and HASC will survey its membership to provide the provider-specific information.

NHF has identified two (1 short-term, and 1 long-term) phases of work. In the long-term (10 months), the goal is to develop the LA Model for inpatient, emergency, and ambulatory care using current data, and to project supply and demand for 2007 and 2012. The short-term (3 month) phase seeks to develop an initial assessment of supply and demand for inpatient and emergency services. A summary of the results will be available to the Board by October 15 (see attached Tasks and Timeline).

NHF has secured funding from the Hospital Association of Southern California, the California Endowment and the California Health Care Foundation for the short-term phase regarding inpatient and emergency services. The analysis will provide an estimate of the impact of Scenario III on the supply and demand of inpatient and emergency services in the County.

Funding has not yet been obtained for the long-term phase, which will support obtaining preliminary results from the Scenario II assessment (by the end of this year), developing the ambulatory care component, refining various databases, integrating the inpatient/ER and ambulatory care components, developing the projections, and making the entire model available on the Internet. This model will allow us to analyze how changes in the supply of public and private health services will affect utilization. For example, a hospital closure can be modeled to estimate the effects on hospital bed utilization (by bed type) and emergency department services at other public and private facilities in the area.

Each Supervisor  
September 19, 2002  
Page 2

In addition to providing demographic, health coverage and health care utilization data, and DHS hospital survey responses, DHS has convened a technical advisory group that will assist in understanding the population-level data and modeling assumptions, and report into the Planning Advisory Group.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please let me know.

TLG:JF:id

Attachment

c: Chief Administrative Officer  
County Counsel  
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
National Health Foundation  
Hospital Association of Southern California

**LA MODEL EXPEDITED UPDATE—INPATIENT AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMPONENT (3 month project, Total Budget \$376,000)**

**Goals**

- Update the population data and the hospital data in the Inpatient and Emergency Services component.
- Provide an initial assessment of the impact of Scenario III on the balance of supply and demand for inpatient and emergency services in LA County by October 15, 2002.

**Tasks**

<b>Tasks</b>		<b>Timeline</b>
#1	Identify LAC-DHS collaborators and technical group	July 1-July 12
#2	Hold periodic meetings with DHS and Technical Advisory Committee	July 3-September 27
#3	Review individual components conceptual design so that they can be technically integrated in the future.	July 15-August 9
#4	Obtain technical group sign off on model assumptions	By September 27
#5	Update hospital survey; collect data	July 19-September 11
#6	Receive available population, coverage, use rate and SPA information from DHS	By August 23
#7	Prepare and upload data	August 23-September 16
#8	Test Inpatient and Emergency Services component	September 23-September 30
#9	Run LAC-DHS Scenario III	October 1-October 7
#10	Produce Results Memorandum	October 8-October 15